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Letter dated 8 August 2011 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

As you are aware the Islamic Republic of Iran organized a conference in Tehran, the International Conference on the Global Fight against Terrorism, on 25 and 26 June 2011. At that conference a number of Heads of State and Government, high-level officials and prominent experts from 60 countries as well as representatives of relevant international and regional organizations participated. The purpose of the Tehran Conference was to exchange views on the global fight against terrorism and find practical ways to further mobilize political will and strengthen international capacities in countering terrorism at national and international levels.

The Tehran Conference is yet another firm indication of the seriousness of Iran's stance with regard to the urgency of international action in the elimination of the threats posed by terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including State terrorism, by whomever and against whomever it may be committed.

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Chairman's Conclusion of the International Conference on the Global Fight against Terrorism (see annex). It would be highly appreciated if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 107, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Eshagh **Al Habib**
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Annex to the letter dated 8 August 2011 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Chairman's Conclusion
International Conference on the Global Fight against Terrorism

Tehran, 25 and 26 June 2011

1. At the initiative of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the International Conference on the Global Fight against Terrorism was held on 25 and 26 June 2011 in Tehran. Heads of State and Government from the neighbouring countries Afghanistan, Iraq and Pakistan, as well as from the Republic of the Sudan, Tajikistan and Mauritania, the Vice-President of Cuba and Ministers and other high-level delegates from 60 States, representatives of the United Nations (Officer in Charge of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force), the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and other regional organizations as well as distinguished scholars and researchers and peace activists from all around the world participated in the Conference.

2. The participants expressed their deep appreciation to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran for its constructive and timely initiative in organizing the International Conference on the Global Fight against Terrorism, and congratulated the Islamic Republic of Iran on the successful organization of the event. The participants stressed the high importance of such gatherings in further mobilizing political will and strengthening international capacities in countering terrorism at national and international levels.

3. The participants reiterated their unequivocal condemnation of all acts of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including State terrorism and economic terrorism wherever, against whomever and by whomever it may be committed. It was underlined that State terrorism has long posed a real threat to the peace and stability of many nations across the globe through unlawful use or threat of force, aggression and occupation.

4. It was acknowledged that terrorism is a global challenge the elimination of which requires a globally approved approach under the United Nations auspices and through participation of all responsible members of the international community. It also requires the use of all potentials of the competent regional and international organizations in order to promote cooperation and coordination in countering terrorism.

5. The vital importance of considering terrorism in a holistic and comprehensive manner and in all its aspects was underscored. In this context, the importance of addressing the historical and continuing underlying root causes of terrorism, including foreign aggression and occupation, poverty and discrimination as well as interventionist policies by some States was highlighted.

6. The participants underlined, as also reiterated by Iran's Supreme Leader, the need for providing a consensual definition of terrorism without prejudicing or affecting, in any manner, the recognized rules and principles of international humanitarian law. It was emphasized that legitimate struggles of peoples under

colonial rule or foreign occupation for their inalienable right to self-determination should not be labelled as terrorism.

7. The importance of countering terrorism in a transparent, rule of law-based, and non-discriminatory manner was emphasized. It was underlined that counter-terrorism measures shall be adopted and carried out in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and international law, including international human rights and humanitarian law. The participants rejected selective or double-standard approaches in dealing with terrorism and terrorist groups and warned that such approaches could undermine international trust and cooperation in countering terrorism globally.

8. The distinctive role of the United Nations, especially the General Assembly, in building international consensus and promoting cooperation and coordination against terrorism was highlighted. In this context, the imperative of following the consensual approach in the international counter-terrorism norm-making processes was underlined. Also the important status of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the need for its balanced implementation as well as its further reviews with a view to its strengthening was emphasized.

9. The participants underlined the need to extend cooperation and interaction among all States in countering terrorism, in all its aspects, at bilateral, regional and international levels. The participants recalled the responsibility of all States in taking necessary measures to bring terrorists to justice, and requested all States to strengthen cooperation to this end.

10. The participants highlighted the unequivocal denunciation by all divine religions of acts of terrorism and indiscriminate violence against innocent people and the high importance these religions attach to human life and dignity as well as peaceful coexistence among nations. The participants rejected any vicious attempt to associate or attribute terrorism to a particular culture, religion or nationality and expressed their concern over certain circles' attempts to associate intolerance, extremism, terrorism and violence with religions, particularly Islam, and condemned any offensive or provocative act against divine values and religious sanctities.

11. The participants expressed their sympathy with victims of terrorism, including State terrorism. The participants expressed their deep concern over excessive and/or disproportionate use of military force in the name of countering terrorism, which has claimed the lives of an increasing number of innocent civilians, and stressed the importance of addressing the plight of these victims. The participants applauded the initiative of the Conference to commemorate the victims of acts of terrorism.

12. The participants welcomed the Islamic Republic of Iran's initiative to establish a standing headquarters for the Conference as a follow-up to further mobilize international and regional political will and preserve the momentum in promoting cooperation and coordination in countering terrorism. In this context, the participants welcomed the offer made by the Republic of Iraq to hold the next Conference in Iraq at a date to be announced in due course.